

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 314 without my signature.

I support additional workforce training funds for seasonal workers. That is why removing barriers for these populations is one of my priorities for the discretionary portion of California's Workforce Investment Act dollars.

This bill authorizes the Employment Training Panel (ETP) to fund training for workers in the state's major seasonal industries. Unfortunately, this bill lowers the ETP criteria for training eligibility in a manner that is not consistent with the goal of the program – to fund training programs that meet the needs of employers for skilled and productive workers and the need of workers for good paying, long-term jobs.

I encourage the sponsors of this measure and others representing seasonal workers to continue to pursue Workforce Investment Act funds, including the 85-percent of those funds awarded by California's local Workforce Investment Boards.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger